

HUBR-1165 (10023593)

REMARKS

Entry of this amendment and reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claim 23 has been amended to overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph rejections of the specified claim.

Claims 23-24, 26-29, 31-34, 36 and 45-46 were finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over the combination of Soane, McReynolds and Oshida. Claims 30 was rejected as allegedly obvious over the combination of Soane, McReynolds, Oshida and Parce. Applicants respectfully traverse each of these rejections.

Applicants reiterate that Oshida discloses, in an example, controlled cooling down to a temperature of only 55°C, but claim 23 requires cooling to about 40°C. It is not believed that Oshida teaches or suggests this feature.

Also note that Oshida discloses heating to a temperature of 20-50°C higher than the glass transition temperature of the material, which is in direct contrast to, e.g., claim 34 and to Soane (which discloses heating to a temperature 2-5°C above the glass transition temperature at col. 2, lines 64-65). Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has only selected a portion of Oshida's teachings rather than its full disclosure; Oshida's disclosed temperature ranges are incompatible with Soane's temperature ranges. Thus, the only way the Examiner could have arrived at the claimed invention is with the improper use of hindsight.

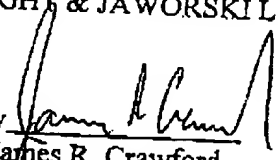
In view of the foregoing, allowance is respectfully requested.

Any fees due may be charged to deposit account no. 50-0624.

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Respectfully submitted

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